

2015 DOT Civil Rights Virtual Symposium – February 3-5, 2015

Speaking with One Voice: Connecting the DOTs

Speaker Biographies

Session 5: Understanding DBE from Different Perspectives

Leonardo San Roman, Small Business Specialist, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, U.S. Department of Transportation

Leo currently serves as a Small Business Specialist for the DOT Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization's Procurement Assistance Division. In this capacity, he helps small business owners to market their products and services and increase the participation of small businesses in DOT procurement opportunities. He also assists the OSDBU Director on special projects.

Marc Pentino, Acting Associate Director, External Civil Rights Programs, U.S. Department of Transportation

Marc is the Acting Associate Director of the External Civil Rights Programs Division at the U.S. Department of Transportation's Departmental Office of Civil Rights. Marc oversees the Division's processing of Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) and Airport Concession DBE appeals. The Division coordinates the Department's oversight of the DBE program and provides guidance to the Operating Administrations. Marc helps draft the DBE program regulations and guidance and trains recipients and stakeholders on the mechanics of the program.

Martha Kenley, National DBE Program Manager, Office of Civil Rights, Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation

Martha joined FHWA in 2010, as its National DBE Program Manager where she is the program's primary point of contact. In this position she develops policies, and advises Division Offices on all program areas, works with the U.S. Department of Transportation on drafting and reviewing regulations, and advances national program initiatives. She also provides training and outreach sessions to improve understanding and administration of the program nationally.

Gary Linn, DBE Program and Compliance Manager, South Carolina Department of Transportation

Gary is the DBE Program and Compliance Manager with South Carolina DOT, where he manages the DBE certification unit and ensures DBE program compliance at all levels. He chairs the South Carolina DOT's Good Faith Efforts committee, and works on project goal setting, on-site project monitoring and commercially useful function inspections. He trains General Contractors/SCDOT Employees on DBE program requirements, and conducts administrative investigations concerning violations of the DBE program.